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DOH-BAY SECURES NARCAN DOSES FOR PANAMA CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT



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Panama City, Fla.— The Florida Department of Health in Bay County (DOH-Bay) is donating 30 doses of Naloxone nasal spray (NARCAN) to the Panama City Police Department (PCPD). PCPD, like many other agencies locally and around the State, is administering NARCAN on a regular basis during medical emergency calls. These additional doses will help the department fill the need within the community and protect officers should they come in contact with Fentanyl which can be deadly even in small amounts.



Panama City Police investigators, Chief Scott Ervin, Panama City Police Department, Sandon S. Speedling, DOH-Bay, Kayla Barron, DOH-Bay, and Deputy Chief Paul Powell, Panama City Police Department, pose for a photo at the Panama City Police Department Wednesday after the doses of NARCAN are donated.

“Chief Ervin called last Friday and we discussed the opioid crisis and the impact in Bay County and the need for additional NARCAN for his officers”, said Sandon S. Speedling. “DOH-Bay was able to secure 30 doses for PCPD and delivered those Wednesday. We are very proud of the working relationship we have with PCPD and hope that future partnerships will allow it to continue to grow.”



“We appreciate the partnership with DOH-Bay and their donation of NARCAN doses as it helps protect our officers and community”, said Chief Scott Ervin, Panama City Police Department. “We look forward to more collaborative efforts with DOH-Bay to prevent overdose deaths.”

DOH-Bay is also working to help PCPD apply for the Helping Emergency Responders Obtain Support (HEROS) program through the Florida Department of Health (DOH). DOH provides agencies with free NARCAN to licensed emergency responders including law enforcement, firefighters, emergency medical technicians or paramedics, correctional officers, and correctional probation officers. The Bay County Sheriff’s Office and Bay County Emergency Medical Services currently participate in the HEROS program. PCPD meets the reporting requirement by entering information on overdose responses into the OD Mapping system.

DOH-Bay is an active member of the newly formed Bay County Overdose Task Force, Bay County Recovery Oriented Systems of Care, and Bay Council on Drugs & Alcohol (BCODA). DOH-Bay prioritizes mental health and substance use initiatives through our Community Health Improvement Plan. We also participate in many other groups and meetings to support mental health and substance use in Bay County.

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